



WESTFORD

Middlesex County



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NARRATIVE

Narrative

The Town of Westford was incorporated on September 23, 1729. The Town is located to the west of Lowell and north of Concord almost to the New Hampshire border.

Physically, Westford is a very beautiful town with rolling hills, lakes, and apple orchards. Originally Westford was noted for its farms and woolen mills, but today is mostly a bedroom community with an emphasis on high tech.

Westford has a beautiful state of the art library, a very active community center with offerings for all ages, an active recreation department, an excellent school system, the Nashoba Valley Ski Area, and two town beaches on spring-fed ponds.

Every year the Town has an Apple Blossom Festival in May with a parade and the crowning of an apple blossom queen, a Strawberry Festival in June featuring a wonderful craft fair and strawberry shortcake.

The Town of Westford truly has something for everyone.

(Narrative supplied by community)



GEOGRAPHY

Location

Northeastern Massachusetts, bordered by Littleton and Groton on the west, Tyngsborough on the north, Chelmsford on the east, Carlisle on the southeast, and Acton on the south. Westford is 23 miles northwest of Boston, 35 miles northeast of Worcester, 86 miles northeast of Springfield, and 220 miles from New York City.

Total Area: 31.33 sq. miles

Land Area: 30.61 sq. miles

Population: 16,392

Density: 536 per sq. mile

Climate

(National Climatic Data Center)

(Bedford Station)

Normal temperature in January.....24.3°F

Normal temperature in July.....71.2°F

Normal annual precipitation.....44.8"

U.S.G.S. Topographical Plates

Westford, Nashua South

Regional Planning Agency

Northern Middlesex

Metropolitan Statistical Area

(1993 Definition)

Lowell



GOVERNMENT

Municipal Offices

Main Number: (978) 692-5500

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Form of Government

Board of Selectmen

Town Manager

Open Town Meeting

Year Incorporated

As a town: 1729

Registered Voters (Secretary of State 1994)

Number	%
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Total Registered 11,174

Democrats 3,248 29.1 % Republicans 2,011 18.0 % Other parties 3 0.0 % Unenrolled Voters 5,912 52.9 %

Legislators

[Senators and Representatives by City and Town](#)



DEMOGRAPHICS

Table DP-1. Profile of General Demographic Characteristics: 2000

Geographic Area: Westford town, Middlesex County, Massachusetts

[For information on confidentiality protection, nonsampling error, and definitions, see text]

Subject	Number	Percent	Subject	Number	Percent
Total population.....	20,754	100.0	HISPANIC OR LATINO AND RACE		
SEX AND AGE			Total population.....	20,754	100.0
Male.....	10,324	49.7	Hispanic or Latino (of any race).....	229	1.1
Female.....	10,430	50.3	Mexican.....	51	0.2
Under 5 years.....	1,842	8.9	Puerto Rican.....	50	0.2
5 to 9 years.....	2,063	9.9	Cuban.....	17	0.1
10 to 14 years.....	1,810	8.7	Other Hispanic or Latino.....	111	0.5
15 to 19 years.....	1,258	6.1	Not Hispanic or Latino.....	20,525	98.9
20 to 24 years.....	503	2.4	White alone.....	19,267	92.8
25 to 34 years.....	2,087	10.1	RELATIONSHIP		
35 to 44 years.....	4,720	22.7	Total population.....	20,754	100.0
45 to 54 years.....	3,228	15.6	In households.....	20,653	99.5
55 to 59 years.....	1,063	5.1	Householder.....	6,808	32.8
60 to 64 years.....	679	3.3	Spouse.....	5,191	25.0
65 to 74 years.....	841	4.1	Child.....	7,714	37.2
75 to 84 years.....	476	2.3	Own child under 18 years.....	6,434	31.0
85 years and over.....	184	0.9	Other relatives.....	516	2.5
Median age (years).....	36.9	(X)	Under 18 years.....	129	0.6
18 years and over.....	14,153	68.2	Nonrelatives.....	424	2.0
Male.....	6,910	33.3	Unmarried partner.....	218	1.1
Female.....	7,243	34.9	In group quarters.....	101	0.5
21 years and over.....	13,664	65.8	Institutionalized population.....	96	0.5
62 years and over.....	1,843	8.9	Noninstitutionalized population.....	5	-
65 years and over.....	1,501	7.2	HOUSEHOLD BY TYPE		
Male.....	644	3.1	Total households.....	6,808	100.0
Female.....	857	4.1	Family households (families).....	5,806	85.3
RACE			With own children under 18 years.....	3,325	48.8
One race.....	20,578	99.2	Married-couple family.....	5,191	76.2
White.....	19,444	93.7	With own children under 18 years.....	3,009	44.2
Black or African American.....	62	0.3	Female householder, no husband present.....	452	6.6
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	13	0.1	With own children under 18 years.....	255	3.7
Asian.....	994	4.8	Nonfamily households.....	1,002	14.7
Asian Indian.....	386	1.9	Householder living alone.....	796	11.7
Chinese.....	472	2.3	Householder 65 years and over.....	291	4.3
Filipino.....	15	0.1	Households with individuals under 18 years.....	3,426	50.3
Japanese.....	16	0.1	Households with individuals 65 years and over.....	1,036	15.2
Korean.....	47	0.2	Average household size.....	3.03	(X)
Vietnamese.....	18	0.1	Average family size.....	3.31	(X)
Other Asian ¹	40	0.2	HOUSING OCCUPANCY		
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	3	-	Total housing units.....	6,941	100.0
Native Hawaiian.....	3	-	Occupied housing units.....	6,808	98.1
Guamanian or Chamorro.....	-	-	Vacant housing units.....	133	1.9
Samoa.....	-	-	For seasonal, recreational, or		
Other Pacific Islander ²	-	-	occasional use.....	64	0.9
Some other race.....	62	0.3	Homeowner vacancy rate (percent).....	0.2	(X)
Two or more races.....	176	0.8	Rental vacancy rate (percent).....	2.3	(X)
<i>Race alone or in combination with one</i>			HOUSING TENURE		
<i>or more other races: ³</i>			Occupied housing units.....	6,808	100.0
White.....	19,605	94.5	Owner-occupied housing units.....	6,258	91.9
Black or African American.....	95	0.5	Renter-occupied housing units.....	550	8.1
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	45	0.2	Average household size of owner-occupied units.....	3.10	(X)
Asian.....	1,075	5.2	Average household size of renter-occupied units.....	2.23	(X)
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	12	0.1			
Some other race.....	102	0.5			

- Represents zero or rounds to zero. (X) Not applicable.

¹ Other Asian alone, or two or more Asian categories.

² Other Pacific Islander alone, or two or more Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander categories.

³ In combination with one or more of the other races listed. The six numbers may add to more than the total population and the six percentages may add to more than 100 percent because individuals may report more than one race.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.



HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

Home Sales (Banker & Tradesman) -

[Town Stats - Free market Statistics](#)

Subsidized Housing Units (DHCD 1998)

[DHCD Subsidized Housing Inventory](#)

Subsidized Housing Units: The number of housing units which count toward the municipality's 10% goal for low- and moderate-income housing. It includes both subsidized affordable units and market rate units in certain eligible subsidized developments.

Public Housing Units (DHCD 1999)

Conventional State: 79

Conventional Federal: 0

Rental Assistance(DHCD 1999)

State (MRVP: 0

Federal (Section 8): 0



TRANSPORTATION

TRANSPORTATION AND ACCESS

The development of transportation resources in the Merrimack River Valley, where Westford is situated, was shaped by the history of the region as a major site of American industrial development in the nineteenth century. The area has exceptionally good highway and rail facilities linking the major cities and towns to each other and to the port, airport, and intermodal facilities of Boston.

Major Highways

Principal highways are State Routes 27 and 225 and Interstate 495, the outer belt around Boston.

Rail

Commuter rail service to North Station, Boston, is available in the neighboring town of Littleton (travel time 55-62 min.; 40 MBTA parking spaces). Freight rail service is available from the Springfield Terminal Railway. Contact number: (978) 663-1073

Bus

Westford is a member of the Lowell Regional Transit Authority (LRTA). No fixed bus service is provided, but paratransit services, including medical trips to Boston, are available for the elderly and disabled through LRTA's Road Runner program.

Other

L.G. Hanscom Field, located in Bedford, is a Reliever Airport with Commercial Service (CR), with two runways: 5,106' asphalt and 7,001' concrete and asphalt. Instrument approaches available: Precision and non-precision. TWC Limosine and Taxi provides non-scheduled service between Westford and Logan Airport.



CULTURE AND RECREATION

LIBRARIES

[Board of Library Commissioners On-line Library Catalog](#)

(American Association of Museums)

None

MUSEUMS

RECREATION

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Recreational Facilities (Recreational sites and activities)

[Department of Environmental Management Recreation Section](#)



MISCELLANEOUS

HEALTH FACILITIES

(Dept. of Public Health 1992)

Hospitals

None

Long Term Care

Westford Nursing Home

Hospices

None

Rest Homes

None

UTILITIES

[Telephone Numbers for Public Utilities](#)

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NOTE: The COMMUNITY PROFILE draws information from a diversity of sources. The main source of information is listed under each section. In some instances comments submitted by the municipality were incorporated to correct and/or enhance the information obtained from the main source. However, no changes were made to those data bases which must be consistent throughout the state. DHCD has made efforts to ensure the accuracy of all data in the COMMUNITY PROFILES, but cannot take responsibility for any consequences arising from the use of the information contained in this document.